(c) The Government had issued instructions to the Income Tax Department in Financial Year 2002-03 to process all pending returns and the returns filed during the year and to issue all refunds arising therefrom by 28-2-03. Therefore, larger number and amount of refunds have been issued during Financial Year 2002-03.

Amounts sanctioned to Department of Income Tax, Chhattisgarh

†4677. SHRI MOTILAL VORA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of schemes received from the Department of Income Tax of the Government of Chhattisgarh and the amount sanctioned for them during 2001-02 and 2002-03;

(b) the quantum of amount that has been provided to the State Government out of the said amount so far; and

(c) by when the remaining amount will be released?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL) : (a) There is no Department of Income Tax of the State Government of Chhattisgarh.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Annual report of International Narcotics Control Board

4678. DR. A. R. KIDWAI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the International Narcotics Control Board in its annual report expressed concern over the adverse socio-economic impact of vastly increasing illicit drug trade that accounts for 99 per cent of the entire drug business world-wide,

(b) if so, whether Government have examined the report; and

(c) if so, the steps Government propose to take to remove the adverse socio-economic impact mentioned in the report?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) The focus of the Annual Report, 2002 of the International Narcotics Control Board (INCB) is the review of the adverse socio-economic impact of illicit (Drug) crop cultivation and illicit drug trade on long term economic growth. This review shows that global illicit drug production and related economic activities compromise long-term economic development because of their destabilizing effects on the State, the economic and the civil society. The INCB Report indicates that ninety-nine per cent of the value added in the global illicit drug trade is generated by drug trafficking at the national and international levels and only one per cent can be attributed as income to the small farmers.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The comments made in the International Narcotics Control Board report pertain to large illicit cultivation areas. India is a licit producer of opium and illicit cultivation is minimal. This is checked by strict implementation of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985 and International Conventions on Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances.

Subsidy in Power Generation Sector

4679. PROF. M. M. AGARWAL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of subsidy being provided by Government in the power generation sector of the country; and

(b) the details of subsidy provided to the various power projects in the country during the last three years, year-wise/project-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL) : (a) and (b) Central Government is extending interest subsidy under Accelerated Generation and Supply Programme (AG and SP) scheme for Renovation and Modernisation (R and M) (Power Plant) and generation projects in order to accelerate the completion of ongoing projects and increasing the supplies from existing facilities. The scheme was started in 9th Five Year Plan and has been extended to 10th Five Year Plan with an outlay of Rs. 1,500 crore. The subsidy is being given through Power Finance Corporation (PFC) and Rural Electrification Corporation (REC), from the last one year.